

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KARACH 03885 131106Z POSS DUPE
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----084363 131623Z /45
R 130740Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3847
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KARACHI 3885

EO 11652 NA
TAGS: BENC PK
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT - PAKISTAN STEEL MILL

REF: STATE 189045

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PAKISTAN
STEEL MILL IS SAID TO BE OVER 30 PERCENT COMPLETED.
PRESENT TARGETS ARE FOR THE MILL TO START PRODUCING
COKE BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR, PIG IRON BY 1980. AND
STEEL BY 1981
AS REPORTED IN ISLAMABAD 7408 AND 7504,
THE MILL RECENTLY RECEIVED NEW CREDITS FROM THE SOVIET
UNION.

2. THE FRENCH FIRM SOFRESID IS STILL SERVING AS OVERALL
CONSULTANT TO THE MILL.

3. APPARENTLY THE TINNING PLANT IS STILL IN THE PLANNING
STAGES AND TENDERS NOT DRAWN UP. ALTHOUGH WE WERE TOLD
SOME TIME AGO THAT THE PLANT WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED BY THE
CANADIAN FIRM WEAN, WE ARE NOW TOLD THIS IS NOT SO. IT
IS SAID A JAPANESE FIRM (UNKNOWN) IS INTERESTED.

4. THE BEST POINT OF CONTACT WITH THE MILL IS MR. ABID
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PAGE 02 KARACH 03885 131106Z POSS DUPE

HUSAIN, CHAIRMAN, PAKISTAN STEEL MILLS CORPORATION LIMITED,
STATE LIFE BUILDING NO. 2, WALLACE ROAD OFF CHUNDRIGAR
ROAD, KARACHI. TELEX 3716

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: WE HAVE FOUND OUR
CONTACTS AT THE MILL MOST RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS ANY ASPECT
OF THE CORPORATION'S PLANS WITH US. A TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

OF A WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY STATIONED HERE TELLS
US HE HAS HAD THE SAME EXPERIENCE, AND WE BOTH HAVE HAD TO
TO GET WHAT INFORMATION WE CAN INDIRECTLY. WE ASSUME THE
MAIN REASON IS THAT THE PAKISTANIS ARE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT
ON THE SOVIETS FOR FINANCING AND CONSTRUCTION THE MILL,
AND THEY ARE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO TALK TO "OUTSIDERS".
THERE IS ALSO A CERTAIN DEGREE OF SENSITIVITY TO ASSER-
TIONS THAT THE MILL DOES NOT REPRESENT THE LATEST IN
TECHNOLOGY, THAT IT WON'T BE COMPLETED ON TIME, AND THAT
IT WON'T BE ECONOMIC WHEN IT IS COMPLETED. APPARENTLY
THEY HAVE YET TO FIRM THEIR SOURCES OF SUPPLY FOR COKE
AND IRON ORE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
MOORE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: BENC, PK
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